

I am writing to express my feeling on the Verizon petition asking the FCC to stop regulating broadband service. If this petition is granted, this would mean that the large phone companies would no longer be subject to regulatory review of their broadband pricing to independent ISPs. As a result, independent ISPs would have to individually negotiate pricing which would undoubtedly raise prices for everyone. Verizon claims that their own affiliated ISP service (Verizon On-Line or VoL) already controls a huge majority of the market, so squashing the rest of the competition isn't likely to impact the market. This type of thinking is just another example of big business trying to squash the small business person and limit competition thereby preventing the average person from having a choice of who to do business with and driving prices higher than they need to be.

I personally value obtaining Internet service from an independent ISP and strongly feel Verizon's request would badly affect consumers with regards to our available choice of Internet Service. Please do not allow Verizon to monopolize this industry.